

# 2020 Missouri Businesses by Size

November 2020



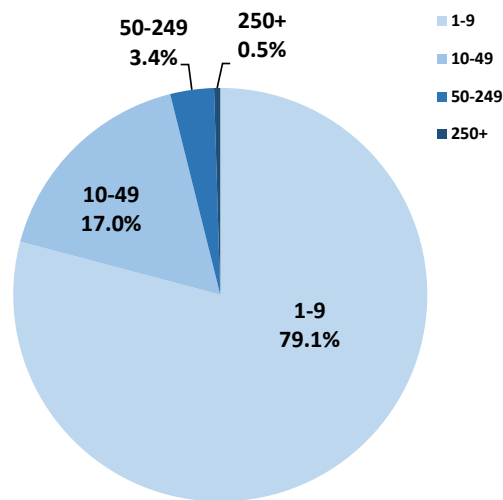
## Number of Businesses by Size

Tracking Missouri businesses by employment size can be used to identify which size of business employs the most people, how the many Missouri businesses range in size of employment and average wages, and the typical size of businesses by industry.

Missouri had 205,295 private sector employers in the first quarter of 2020.\* Very small businesses comprised a majority of this total, with 79.1 percent of Missouri businesses employing less than 10 people. Firms employing less than 50 workers made up 96.1 percent of all businesses in Missouri.

Number of Employees	Number of Businesses
1-4	134,732
5-9	27,724
10-19	20,352
20-49	14,493
50-99	4,594
100-249	2,415
250-499	673
500-999	206
1000+	106
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205,295</b>

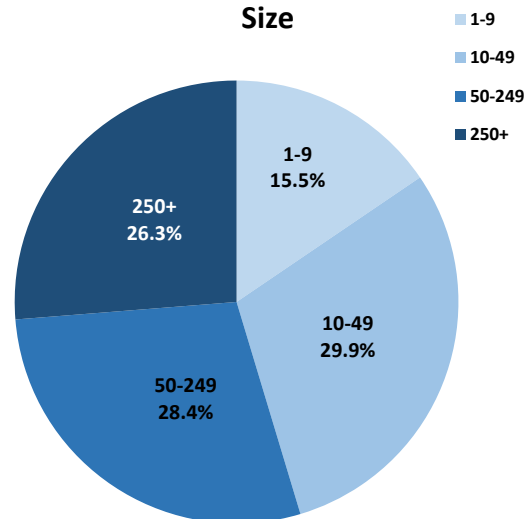
Combined Percent of Business by Size



## Percentage of Employment by Business Size

Small businesses in Missouri employ a significant portion of the private sector workforce. Private sector employers that work for a small business (less than 50 employees) employ 45.4 percent of the workforce. Medium-sized businesses (50-249 employees) employ 28.4 percent of the private sector workforce, while large employers (250 or more) employ 26.3 percent.

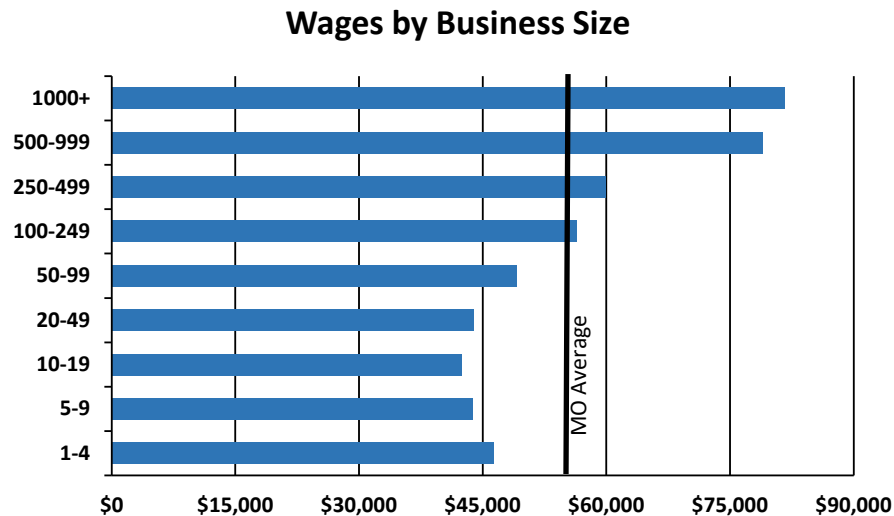
Employment Percent by Business Size





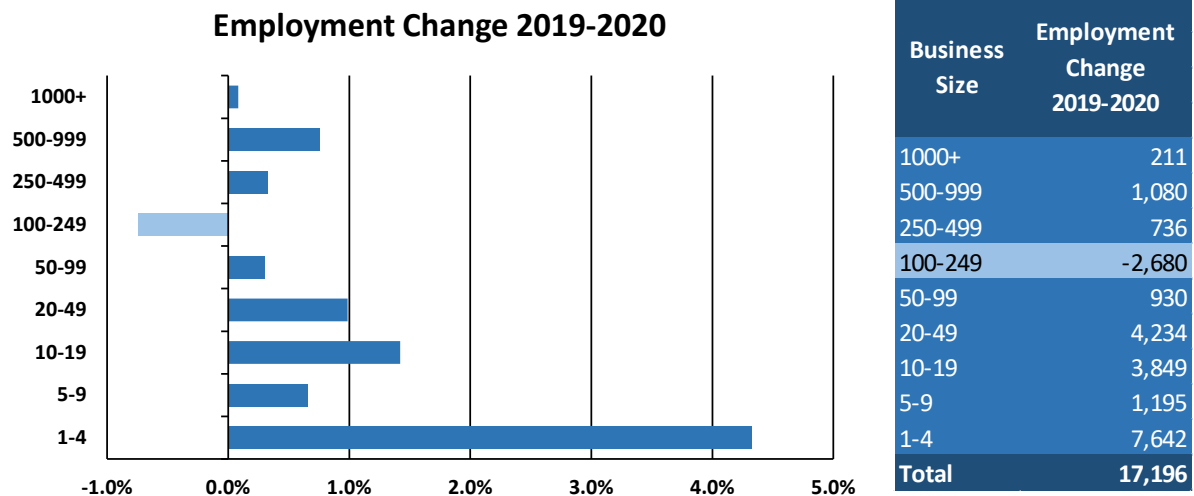
## Wages by Business Size

Wages were calculated using first quarter data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The average annual wage in Missouri for 2020, regardless of business size, was \$55,825. Wages were highest at businesses that employed 1,000 or more people with average wages equaling \$81,640. Establishments that employed 10 to 19 people had the lowest average wage at \$42,484.



## 2020 Employment Trends by Business Size

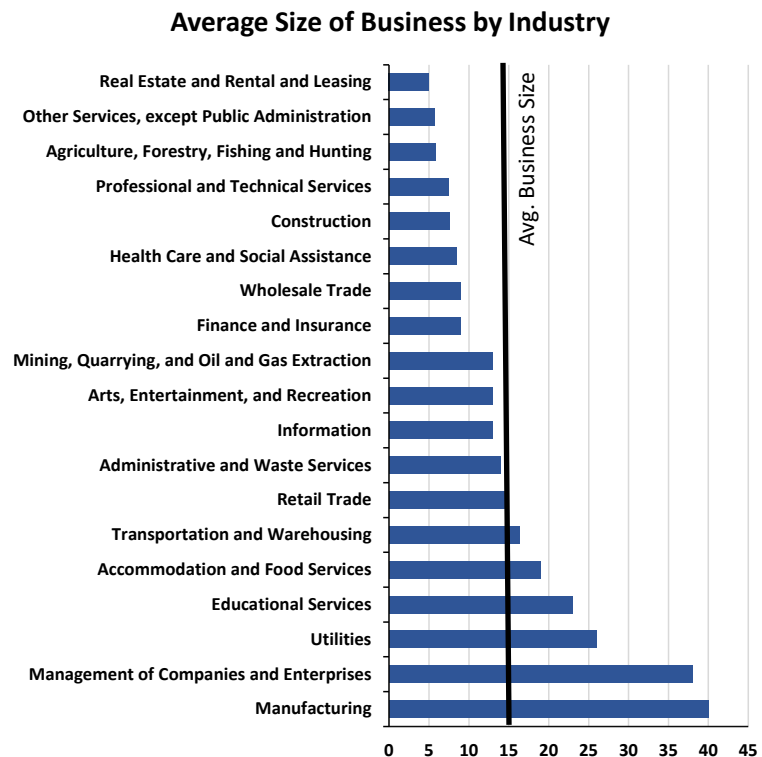
Employment levels were calculated using first quarter data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Most business sizes experienced an increase in employment, except one. Businesses that ranged from 100-249 employees experienced negative growth by 0.7 percent. Businesses that employed 1-4 people had the largest growth of 4.3 percent. Overall, Missouri businesses added 17,196 employees between first quarter 2019 and first quarter 2020.





## Average Size of Business by Industry

The average business size was 15 employees in the first quarter of 2020. Two industries had an average employment of 38 or more: *Manufacturing* with 40 workers per business and *Management of Companies and Enterprises* with 38 workers per business. *Utilities* and *Educational Services* industries also had higher average employment with 26 and 23 workers per business, respectively. The *Real Estate and Rental and Leasing* industry had the lowest average employment with five workers per business.



### NOTES:

The data contained in this report focuses on economic and industry activity in Missouri prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, using the most reliable and proven economic and workforce data resources available. Typically, these high-quality sources have some lag in publication due to the sound and thorough methodologies used to ensure accurate and reliable data. Analysis of economic shifts will always rely on these key sources for the most precise representation of the economy, and Missouri will continue to monitor these indicators throughout the state's economic recovery.

The Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC) monitors business sizes through unemployment insurance accounts established in the state.

\*Even though annual data is available for employer size counts (page one), first quarter is used for data congruency across multi-source availability being subject to only first quarter release at the time of this document. Business data is derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, a cooperative program between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and state labor market information centers. Non-employer businesses, such as sole proprietors, are monitored through a U.S. Census program that uses administrative data, chiefly IRS returns, to develop statistics. Non-employer businesses account for less than 4 percent of all sales but do account for the largest number of businesses. More information is available at:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/surveys-programs.html>

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html>

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